

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/914,524

Examiner

Brian P Mruk

Applicant(s)

PANADIKER ET AL.

Art Unit

1751

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to November 7, 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 12-21.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- 1 ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2 ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3 ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No. _____
- 4 ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- 5 ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6 ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. 20031205.
- 7 ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- 8 ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- 9 ☐ Other

Brian P. Mruk
BRIAN P. MRUK
PATENT EXAMINER
TECH CENTER 1766

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Laura Grunzinger on December 5, 2003.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 12. In line 7, **after** "each Z is independently", **insert** ---a heterocyclic ring containing an N-oxide, a cationically charged heteroaromatic monomer, a cyclically polymerizing monomer, or---

Claim 12. In line 7, **after** "(CH₂)_mCOR", **insert** ---,---

Claim 15. In line 1, **delete** "dye maintenance co-polymer further", **and insert** ---Z---

Claim 18. In line 1, **delete** "Claim 17", **and insert** ---Claim 12---

Claim 18. In lines 1-2, **delete** "cyclically polymerizing monomer, said cyclically polymerizing", **and insert** ---cationically charged heteroaromatic monomer, said cationically charged heteroaromatic---

Claim 19. In line 1, **delete** "Claim 17", **and insert** ---Claim 12---

Claim 19. In lines 1-2, **delete** "cyclically polymerizing monomer, said cyclically polymerizing monomer", **and insert** ---heterocyclic ring containing an N-oxide, said heterocyclic ring containing an N-oxide---

Claim 21. In line 5, **delete** "Claim 11", **and insert** ---Claim 12---

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Fredj, EP 754,748, discloses a detergent composition comprising a dye transfer inhibiting copolymer (see abstract). It is further taught by Fredj that the polymer is a copolymer of vinylpyridine with vinylpyrrolidone, acrylic acid, and maleic acid (see page 2, lines 42-59), and that the detergent composition also contains 1-40% by weight of an anionic surfactant (see page 4, lines 33-34). However, patentee differs from applicant in that Fredj does not teach or suggest in general a detergent composition that contains the specific dye maintenance copolymer required in the instant claims.

Accordingly, the claims viewed as a whole would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention after viewing the prior art of record.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian Mruk whose telephone number is (703) 305-0728. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yogendra Gupta, can be reached on (703) 308-4708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9310 (Before Final) and (703) 872-9311 (After Final).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

BPM
Brian Mruk
December 5, 2003

Brian P. Mruk
Brian P. Mruk
Patent Examiner
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